Fall 2007

Taylor: A Magazine for Taylor University Alumni and Friends (Fall 2007)

Taylor University

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relentless discovery
When a high-altitude balloon is launched it carries a research payload to a height of twenty miles. Taylor students have successfully launched and recovered over fifty balloon payloads.

Worshipping God through relentless discovery

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 
Psalm 139:14

Discovery is seeing what everybody else has seen, and thinking what nobody else has thought.
Albert Szent-Györgyi

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it, for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. 
Psalm 24:1-2

The first step toward finding God, Who is Truth, is to discover the truth about myself. and if I have been in error; this first step to truth is the discovery of my error.
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Freshman discoveries at Taylor University
(Discovery is) unveiling things we had never known existed, both in ourselves and in those around us, through the act of stepping out from our comfort zones and leaning into the beautiful life we are so privileged to lead.

Sarah Albinson '11

Taylor has surprised me by being so much better than I thought it would be. One particularly nice surprise has been how wonderful all of the girls in my wing have been and how well we all get along. As far as class-related things, it has been quite a shock from what I was used to in high school. I have had to do so much more reading in college.

Emily Fox '11

My DA, Valerie, gave me a note that said she had been praying for me all summer. This completely shocked me.

Lindsay Loyd '11

My biggest surprise since coming to Taylor is either a) that the weather is never consistent, or b) that the people on your wing really become your best support group.

Laura Gustafson '11

To me, discovery is the exhilaration of uncovering something previously not known or understood. This thrill is the main drive behind the continual search for knowledge.

Luke Dornon '11
Trying for the 1,001st time

"I have not failed 1,000 times. I have found 1,000 ways not to make a light bulb."

Although it is unsure whether the number Thomas Edison used for his famous quote was 700, 1,000, or 10,000, the point is, Edison was not dissuaded by what some might call failure.

Instead it was his relentless desire to discover that drove Edison to try again—whether it was for the 701st time, or the 1,0001st time.

That relentless quest for discovery is one that personifies academic pursuit at Taylor University. It is an "ought-ness" that spurs on the professor to supervise a balloon launch for the umpteenth time. It is what drives a professor to take his faculty colleagues and students to Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia to visit historic sites of the American civil rights movement. And it is what leads a student to travel to Upland, Ind., from Moscow, Russia, to drill holes in the earth in search of water and oil.

All of those stories and more are contained in the fall issue of Taylor. In the same way that worship is not confined to the chapel, discovery is not confined to the classroom. Our students enjoy a rich learning environment on every corner of the campus from the residence halls and the intramural fields to countless learning opportunities on and off campus. At Taylor University, learning and discovery are acts of worship.

We pursue rigorous academic discovery so that a watching world will recognize the word Christian, as applied to everything we do, means more and not less. We go for that 1,001st time because the thrill of discovery brings us a step closer to seeing God at work in our world. And we pursue academic excellence at Taylor University so that we may honor Jesus Christ who shed His blood for us.

James R. Garringer
Editor
The joy of forgiveness

True happiness can only be found in a relationship with God; and the key to that relationship is found in the reality of forgiveness. That was just one of the truths shared by pastor, author and popular radio preacher Dr. Alistair Begg during fall 2007 Spiritual Renewal Week services at Taylor.

Based upon Psalm 32, Begg’s sermon series was titled The Joy of Forgiveness.

Begg is the senior pastor at Parkside Church in Cleveland, Ohio. He has authored several books including What Angels Wish They Knew: The Basics of True Christianity, and The Hand of God: Finding His Care in All Circumstances. His syndicated radio program Truth For Life is heard on stations throughout the United States.

“For forgiveness is an act of God’s free grace,” said Begg in his sermon entitled Happiness or Heaviness. “We are not forgiven because we deserve to be forgiven.”

“The manner in which Dr. Begg handled Spiritual Renewal Week was indicative of the emphasis he places on the written Word of God and the way it was fleshed out in God’s Son, the incarnate Word of God,” said Philip Byers ’08, a history major from Jeffersonville, Ind. “Dr. Begg didn’t skip around and pick only the verses he thought were particularly ‘useful,’ but rather he engaged the whole text and brought from it a powerful exhortation to repentance.

“He preached about both the necessity of transformed behavior in a disciple’s life, as well as the complete sufficiency of grace,” Byers added. “He preached the whole gospel, and it was powerful.”

Alli Wolgemuth ’08, a political science major from Aurora, Colo., said that Begg made the scriptures come to life. “It was his approach that struck me the most—how he could spend a half hour on a single verse;” she said. “Taking scripture and finding your own voice in it—that really struck me. (I was) hearing my own doubts voiced by David and looking for comfort from the Lord like David did.”

“It sets a tone for what the school year is about; in the midst of academics there is clearly a space for spiritual renewal,” she added. “I think it is a time that each student comes away feeling refreshed and renewed about what this year will hold.”

Podcasts of Dr. Begg’s sermon series and all chapel services are free for download. Visit www.taylor.edu/experience then click on the chapel audio/video link.

“It sets a tone for what the school year is about; in the midst of academics there is clearly a space for spiritual renewal.”
Taylor receives historic #1 ranking

Add the numbers one, two and twenty-four and the result is an unprecedented ranking for Taylor University. Taylor achieved its first ever Number One ranking in the 2008 U.S. News and World Report survey America’s Best Colleges when it was named the top university among 95 baccalaureate colleges in the Midwest.

The ranking follows ten straight top three finishes.

Taylor received 100 ranking points while second-place Ohio Northern University (Ohio) received 89 points. Cedarville (Ohio) and Dordt (Iowa) scored 81 for a fourth-place tie while Augustana (S.D.) with 79 rounded out the top five.

Taylor was also ranked in two additional sections of the survey. Great Schools, Great Prices ranked Taylor second in the Midwest in terms of affordability; and Programs to Look For, a national listing of 24 schools with outstanding overseas opportunities, also included Taylor, along with universities with household names such as Dartmouth, Georgetown, Syracuse and Texas.

Among the Midwest’s Best Baccalaureate Colleges, Taylor scored high marks in several fields of criteria: first in Peer Assessment Score, Average Freshman Retention Rate and Average Graduation Rate, and second in Alumni Giving Rate and Freshmen in Top 25% of High School Class.

"This ranking is an external validation of the things we do day-in and day-out at Taylor University," said Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ‘68, Taylor president. "We aspire to get great students and those great students perform wonderfully in the classroom.

"Our students come with high test scores and are highly-ranked in their individual high school classes. They come here because there is an alignment between who they are and what they desire and who we are," he added.

Habecker said the Great Schools, Great Prices and Programs to Look For portions of the survey carry their own significance.

"Why does Taylor University pursue its global engagement initiatives? It is a mandate of the Gospel. One of the first verses I learned as a small child was John 3:16: 'God so loved the world,'" Habecker said.

"We have been commanded to go into all the world," he continued. "Global engagement always starts at home. We have an obligation to be engaged wherever we are. The challenge we face is that we cannot ignore the rest of the world or become so engrossed in our global agenda that we suffer at home. That is what we are trying to work through; and you see various pieces of this worked out in Taylor’s long and distinguished 160-year history."
Taylor University has experienced the largest two-year enrollment expansion in its history, according to University officials. Nearly 1,100 freshmen and/or transfer students enrolled at Taylor this year and last, said Steve Mortland '85, dean of enrollment management.

According to Mortland, the University continues to enjoy an 88% freshman retention rate that has grown the overall student population and led to full residence halls.

"The growth of our student body has been the result of intentional recruitment efforts," he said. "We are not sitting idly by and hoping it happens. We have worked hard to create recruitment strategies that can attract quality students."

Construction has begun on a new 60-bed apartment building on the north side of campus to make space for the growing numbers of students and replace a portion of the aging Fairlane apartment complex.

Included in the overall enrollment numbers is the number of ethnic students, which has steadily risen over the past four years from 101 (5.4%) in 2004 to 143 (7.7%) in 2007.

And a total of 101 students are studying this year in Taylor’s graduate programs, which include the master of business administration, master of environmental science and the master of arts in higher education.

"As we reach the 100-student milestone in our graduate programs, we are gratified that Christian professionals from various walks of life and in a variety of life stages are finding value in these new master’s degree offerings," said Dr. Chris Bennett, dean of Taylor’s graduate programs. "God continues to bless Taylor University as we explore additional expressions of our mission statement which embrace new constituencies."
Hundreds come for parents and family weekend

Whether it was the food, the music, the old-fashioned block party or just spending time with their loved ones, a good time was had by all as over 700 parents and family members took part in Taylor University’s 2007 Parents and Family Weekend.

The weekend had had humble origins as a recognition ceremony for senior football players nearly 40 years ago; it has since grown into one of the largest events hosted on the Taylor campus.

An addition this year was a block party hosted near the Samuel Morris statue garden Friday evening with entertainment provided by the Taylor University Jazz Ensemble. Music was again on center stage Saturday as Taylor’s artist-in-residence Tim Zimmerman and his group The King’s Brass performed to a packed Rediger Chapel/Auditorium.

“It was a wonderful weekend,” said Jerry Cramer, Taylor’s director of parent programs. “The weather was incredible and I heard from many of our parents that this was the highlight of their fall.”

Dr. Ben Sells, vice president for university advancement at Taylor, said the weekend and its activities are designed to show appreciation to one of Taylor University’s most vital stakeholder groups.

“We tell our parents that they are our partners in the education process,” he said. “The parents of Taylor University students make substantial financial commitments, in many cases sending not just one or two, but three and even four or more of their children here.”

Two of those parents are Dr. Keith and Elaine Miller of Muncie, Ind. Their daughter Darcy ’09 was preceded at Taylor by older siblings Craig ’03 and Cammy ’06.

“We have always looked forward to Parents and Family Weekend at Taylor,” said Elaine. “It is so well-organized and there is something for every possible taste—whether you want to go to a concert or meet your kids’ advisors. Jerry Cramer and his staff make it so warm and inviting. They go out of their way to make the parents feel welcome.”

“We love to have parents come to campus, as they are very much a part of the campus community, said Cramer. “Making these special people feel welcome is a highlight for all of us at Taylor.”

Hold the date for next year’s parents and family weekend
Being holy and being human

Bishop William Taylor was a man of conviction and passion who had everyday struggles faced by Christian believers throughout the ages—this according to a team of faculty and student researchers who have spent months transcribing his journals for an upcoming publication.

Journal entries handwritten by Taylor University's namesake will appear in Lessons of Infinite Advantage: the California Experiences of William Taylor, 1851-1856, a book expected to be published by 2010. They paint a picture of a man who refused payment for his street-side preaching, dealt with opposition and worshipped God following the death of his beloved son.

Professor Robert Lay of Taylor's Biblical studies, Christian education and philosophy department coordinated the work of seven students who poured through some 60,000 words written by Taylor. "It is such a huge task to explore all the references in the journal," Lay said. "It was great to have extra sets of eyes to explore old newspapers and read secondary references in books about Bishop Taylor."

The title for the book comes from Taylor's entry the day after the death of his son Willie. "There are lessons learned in experience which cannot be spread out on paper, and yet of infinite advantage in the details of Christian duty," Taylor wrote.

Lay said Taylor personally raised money for his travels, the purchase of a ship and the building of a "temperance house" for sailors. But he would not accept money for his preaching on the street, much of which was done from the top of a whiskey barrel.

"There were a lot of surprising and fascinating stories about how difficult it was to carry out his ministry," Lay said. "Drunks would walk up in the plaza and he would diffuse the situation. People would drive through the center of the crowd with an ox cart to make a lot of noise. On almost every page there are some interesting surprises."

"The students saw how a godly man deals with challenges, struggles and setbacks and how he brings those before the Lord and learns to put his trust in the Lord," added Lay.

Visit the Taylor University Archives online at www.taylor.edu/academics/supportservices/archives.
in the loop

Faculty accolades

Ron Benbow, department chair and associate professor of mathematics, presented mathematics workshops for Pre-K through 9th grade teachers in Monrovia, Liberia, as part of a Teacher Mentoring Team with World Hope International in July and August.

John Bruner, communication/new media instructor, recently published an article in the juried Online Journal of Distance Education Administration entitled Factors Motivating and Inhibiting Faculty in Offering Their Courses via Distance Education.

Kathy Bruner, assistant professor of communication/new media, made a presentation on evangelical television at a Calvin College conference, Understanding Evangelical Media Today: From Broadcasts to Blogs, Bible Theme Parks, and Podcasts in July.

Jenny Collins ’89, assistant professor of Christian education and director of the Lighthouse program, was a plenary speaker at the West Coast Healthcare in Missions & Ministry Conference at Fuller Theological Seminary in August. Her topic was Best Practices for Short-Term Healthcare Missions.

Matt Delong, associate professor of mathematics, has been named the first Fellow of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence at Taylor University. He has also been elected vice-president of the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences. He will serve on the executive board of ACMS as vice president for 2007-2009 and as president 2009-2011.

Steve Hoffmann, department chair and associate professor of political science, led a faculty development tour for the Cincinnati World Affairs Council on the theme Germany and Europe in the New Century.

Ed Meadors, associate professor of biblical studies, presented a paper entitled The New Perspective on Paul: Progress or Pretense at the International Institute of Christian Studies conference in Kansas City in July.

Lorne Mook ’87, associate professor of English, has a review of Littlefoot (a book-length poem by Charles Wright) appearing in this month’s Contemporary Poetry Review.

Rachel Smith, professor of art, was a participant in a month-long National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute titled The Cathedral and Culture: Medieval York in York, England, followed by research in France.

Richard Squiers, professor and graduate program director of earth and environmental science, and Natalia Krylova, professor of Russian literature, delivered papers at two conferences in June: An Analysis of Green Space in Petrozavodsk (Russia): A Case Study in the Use of Electronic Media for Data Analysis and Visualization at the International Conference on the Use of Electronic Media in Government (Petrozavodsk, Russia); and Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's): Challenges and Perspectives Facing the European Union, the Russian Federation and the United States at the Conference on Ecologically Sustainable Agriculture sponsored by the Clean Baltic Coalition.

Hank Voss and Don Takehara have received a $250,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for the project New Heights in STEM Undergraduate Learning.

Several faculty from the mathematics department presented papers at the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences biennial conference at Messiah College in May/June, 2007. Their topics are listed below:

Jeremy Case ’87, Portrayals of Mathematicians in Culture
Mark Colgan, Breathing Life into the Liberal Arts Math Course: Ten Teaching Tips
Ken Constantine, Professor to Class: What’s the Real Deal with Statistical Independence?
David Neuhouser, The Role of Mathematics in the Spiritual Development of George MacDonald
Guebert and Helyer honored

Drs. Mike Guebert and Larry Helyer have been named respective winners of the 2007 Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award and the 2007 Forman Distinguished Faculty Award at Taylor University.

Guebert is a professor in the earth and environmental sciences department at Taylor. He holds bachelors and master’s degrees from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University.

Helyer, a professor in the Biblical studies, Christian education and philosophy department, is also a two-time winner of Taylor’s Distinguished Professor Award. He holds degrees from Biola University, Western Conservative Baptist Seminary and Fuller Theological Seminary, as well as a certificate from the American Institute of Holy Land Studies and Hebrew University.

“(Dr. Guebert) has demonstrated how one’s professional passion can be employed to the benefit of our local and regional community,” said Dr. Steve Bird, the 2006 Teaching Excellence Award winner, who cited among other things Guebert’s work to provide clean drinking water to villages in Guatemala.

“While he is engaged in the heart of scholarly conversations, Dr. Helyer has maintained the ability to communicate with students and with a broader lay audience,” said Dr. Faye Chechowich ’74, Taylor’s dean of faculty development. “Dr. Helyer’s teaching and pastoral ministry is appreciated by many in our local community.” Helyer has written a number of books, papers and articles and has contributed a translation of 2 Samuel to the Holman Christian Standard Bible and written nearly 40 journal articles, reviews and conference papers.
Tennis team wins MCC championship

Taylor University's men's tennis team relied on a key addition, outstanding play and true team chemistry as they rolled to a 12-1 regular season, a 7-0 conference season and a MCC tournament championship.

Coach Don Taylor already had the pieces in place to make a strong run. Seven players returned from last year's 5-5 team including Jorge Burmicky '08 and Dave Smith '10.

When newcomer Felipe Bedon '11, Ibarra, Ecuador, supplanted Burmicky as the Number One singles player, Burmicky could have resisted the change, but instead came alongside Bedon to benefit the team.

"Jorge became a good mentor for Felipe," Taylor said of Burmicky. "I believe it made him more comfortable and helped him adapt to the community easier."

"We focused on being more encouraging and in supporting each other," he added.

The team's experience, poise and confidence led to a fast start with victories over Indiana Tech and Indiana Wesleyan. Another factor in the Trojans' successful season was their dominant doubles play.

The Trojans raced through the three-day conference tournament, sewing up the title on the second day.

"The guys did not feel any pressure because we had already qualified for Regionals by virtue of the regular season title," Taylor said. "We had good seeds and the determination to prove that our conference record was not a fluke."

Taylor said his players' shared Christian faith was pivotal in the team's success.

"The key to our season was that we were Christ-centered," he stated. "The unity on the team was unquestionable. Every guy accepted his role on the team and realized that it would have an important impact on our success."

Taylor will resume play with an abbreviated schedule in the spring before regional play.

"The key to our season was that we were Christ-centered."
Fall 2007 sports review

The Taylor volleyball team is 30-9 overall and regular season MCC champs. They are currently ranked 21st in NAIA polls. Setter Maggie Henss '08 recorded her 5,000th assist and won the Region VIII Setter of the Week award three times. Middle hitter Emilie York '08 and libero Lindsey Bayle '10 have each won the honor once.

The men's cross-country team was ranked in the Top 30 of the NAIA for most of the season and took third place at the Mid-Central Conference meet. Tom Robertson '10 and Michael Pabody '10 earned All-Conference honors.

The women's cross-country team took third place at the Mid-Central Conference meet. Elise Knapp '08 led the team with a 16th place finish.

The football team is currently 2-7, 0-6 in the Mid-States Football Association. Ty Needler '10 and Paul Passiales '09 are tied for fifth in tackles among MSFA teams.

The men's soccer finished with 12-5-2 and 5-2-1 records—good for second place in the MCC. The Trojans recorded eight shutouts and goalkeeper Benj Petrolje '08 earned All-MCC and All-Region honors in September.

Women's soccer finished eighth in MCC standings with records of 3-12 and 1-7. Goalkeeper Shawna Lane '10 ended the season second in the MCC in saves.

The women's tennis team completed the season with overall and conference marks of 8-6 and 4-4. The Lady Trojans finished fourth at the MCC Tournament. Kristen Goede '10 and Kaiti Marsh '10 were named to the All-MCC team.

Taylor's golf team placed eighth at the MCC Tournament. Ryan Johnson '09 led the team with a 231 four-round total to finish 15th in individual scoring.

For scores, game recaps and podcasts, visit www.taylor.edu/athletics.
Digging a little deeper: Why I teach science at Taylor

Gazing in the noon-day sun over the broad floodplain of the Little Mary’s River, with the strong scent of freshly-tilled earth in the spring air, this passage permeated my senses:

“The earth is the LORD’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it. For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters (Psalm 24:1-2).”

While conducting field work that day for my undergraduate geology thesis, I was experiencing a transformation in my thinking. The fresh thoughts came partly by dirtying my hands with soil samples and partly by digging into scripture.

I had begun my “integration of faith and learning”—common language at Taylor—just one year earlier while a junior at the University of Illinois. As both a new geology major and a new Christian, I began to grapple with the questions, “How can I put these two new exciting areas of my life together?” and “Why should I be involved in science as a Christian?”

When I read scripture that day on the tailgate of my hatchback, I began to uncover a deeper understanding of something already present at the surface from my childhood days playing in the woods... this creation is owned by the Creator, God, and He has revealed Himself in it. In fact, as I continued to read through the scriptures that summer, it became clear to me that the general revelation of God through His creation clearly testifies in a language everyone can understand (Ps 19:1-4), and that “since the creation of the world, God’s invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse” (Rom. 1:20).

We affirm this as a Taylor community in the first chapel of every academic year by reciting these beginning phrases of our traditional Litany of Dedication:

For the joy of living and learning in a world where every common bush is aflame with God, and where the heavens declare His glory; We give thee thanks, O Lord.

For the wonder of exploration and discovery, for the way in which thy power and majesty are revealed in rock and stone, in order and symmetry in the world; We give thee thanks, O Lord.
"I want my science training to become a means by which I love, honor and glorify God as I serve on His behalf toward the rest of His creation."

Specifically in the science division, we profess to our students that heaven and earth declare the glory of God, from the smallest scales of particle physics, molecular chemistry and genetics, to the human scale of our living ecosystems and environment, and to the astronomical scales of universal space and geologic time.

Back on that spring day decades ago, a new passion also sprouted in the fertile soil of my heart. "If I love the creator, I should be taking care of His creation." And further still, "I want my science training to become a means by which I love, honor and glorify God as I serve on His behalf toward the rest of His creation."

Isn't that what God asked Adam and Eve to do when He commanded them to exercise godly dominion and rule over creation (Gen 1:27-28) and to serve and protect the garden (Gen 2:15)? Adam and Eve, (and by extension all humans), were (are) called by God to be stewards over all creation: to exemplify Him to all other inhabitants, to properly increase the yield of the property in a timely manner, to express our gratitude for His blessings and to anticipate both His return and the rewards or consequences for our response.

As I discuss this mandate with students, a question often arises, "So, how do we do this?" I answer that if we are to serve and protect the creation, we must first know the creation, and natural science is the most powerful way in which we know it. Through chemistry, biology, geology, physics and mathematics we study and interpret the intricate details and grand scheme of the properties and processes of God's handiwork. Along with applications of computer science and engineering technologies, we earnestly strive toward the Christian calling of serving God, His people and His creation.

Long after my days of digging soil samples, I now find myself regularly applying this approach of science and faith integration by drilling wells to bring both clean water and Living Water to Latin American villages.

And surrounding me, I enjoy a community of competent colleagues at Taylor working together and in their own ways to teach and practice science, technology, engineering and mathematics as integral to our call to minister the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need—as an exercise of our Godly dominion, as we obey God's command in scripture to faithfully care for the natural world and all the people in it.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, Lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do His bidding, You mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, Wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, Kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, Young men and maidens, old men and children (Psalm 148:7-12).

Worship the LORD in the splendor of His holiness. Tremble before Him, all the earth. Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it! Let the fields be jubilant and everything in them (Ps. 96:9, 11).

Mike Guebert, Ph.D.
Professor of geology and hydrology
Alumni fill advancement posts

Two alumni with strong ties to Taylor University have been hired to fill newly-formed posts within the university advancement office. Tom Green '81 and Ken Wolgemuth '67 have each been named regional director for advancement. Green will work in and from the Indianapolis, Ind., area and Wolgemuth will be based in Chicago, Ill.

Both bring extensive résumés to their respective positions. Green worked in financial planning for over 20 years and Wolgemuth has served in urban ministry settings along with stints at Zondervan Publishers and Word Records. According to Dr. Ben Sells, vice president for university advancement, the University hopes to hire one more regional director for the Michigan area.

“I have a sense that God has been preparing this work for me for my entire life,” reflected Green. “A great passion of mine is to work to assure that a Taylor University education will be available to all whom God calls. I’m looking forward to working with Taylor’s alumni and friends to make this dream a reality.”

“My Taylor education not only gave me a foundational start to my career in Christian publishing and sales, but it also was catalyst to significant spiritual growth,” Wolgemuth said. “Because I have witnessed firsthand countless young lives being changed and enriched by a Taylor education, becoming a member of Taylor’s advancement team is a dream come true.”

Learning the rest of the story

Dianna Woodward '95 was so sold on her Taylor University education that she spent her own time and money to recruit fellow Taylor graduates to her employer, Accenture, a global management, consulting and technology services company. Her death from cancer last year led her brother Justin '01, her parents and a number of Woodward's Accenture colleagues to establish a scholarship in her memory.

Woodward’s legacy was one of many that were celebrated by nearly 400 donors and students at Taylor’s 14th annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner on Oct. 6.

“This evening is special because it connects donors with students,” said Brad Yordy ’05, Taylor’s director of stewardship and scholarship. “Our donors all look forward to it. I think it’s significant that people came from as far away as Florida, California and Texas.”

According to Yordy, donors contributed over $1 million in endowed annual scholarships and grants during the past fiscal year; he added that a total of 610 students receive some form of scholarship aid from Taylor.

“Our scholarship donors have a real passion and affinity for students,” he said. “Some people like to give to brick and mortar; some give to programming. These people have a passion for directly helping students who could otherwise not attend Taylor.”
"During my time at Taylor I have been nurtured and developed both academically and spiritually. These coffee conversations are extraordinary but typical of my Taylor experience and I could not be here to benefit from them if it weren’t for the Taylor Fund." - Jessica Wittebols ’07
relentless discovery
“I have not failed 700 times. I have found 700 ways not to make a light bulb.” - Thomas Edison

“True education must contain knowledge of God.” - Dr. Hank Voss
The good Berean

...continue a research tradition
Before there can be trial, error and finally breakthrough, there must first be inspiration. That is how Dr. Hank Voss describes the journey of discovery upon which he has led hundreds of students since 1994. It could also describe his own pilgrimage that brought him from the Silicon Valley to Taylor University.

Voss serves as professor of physics and the acting director of Taylor’s science research training program. Prior to his arrival in Upland, he spent 15 years as a research scientist working for Lockheed Research in Palo Alto, Calif.

Although he has Midwestern roots (his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees are from the University of Illinois; his B.S. is from the Illinois Institute of Technology), Voss confessed that his family initially wondered what would compel him to leave the Silicon Valley for Upland, Ind.

But in the end it was the opportunity to shape the lives of students that was too good to pass up.

“We have very bright, well-rounded, very sharp, enthusiastic, missions-minded students,” Voss said, adding that half of his students have gone on to graduate school. “I like to work with students like that. They have the bigger picture ... a lot of them are capable when they come in to Taylor. They are willing to be mentored one-on-one.”

One-on-one mentoring as well as hands-on learning have characterized Voss’ work at Taylor. Under his guidance, his students have studied thunderstorms from space, built high-altitude balloon payloads, dug wells in search of water and oil, manufactured instruments for NASA satellites, built a solar car and retrofitted a linear accelerator from medical to classroom applications—to name a few.

“We need to inspire students,” Voss declared. “I was impacted through the moon launches—the challenge of the unknown. If we are going to succeed as a nation, we have to be inspired.”

“We are called to glorify God with our talents. We are in the world but not of the world. We should use those talents to glorify God,” he continued. “We challenge students with what they really need for graduate school. We build advanced sensors, publish findings and stimulate faculty enhancement. People take us seriously as they see us write our proposals and publish our data.”

A Christian voice in sciences and education in general is needed now more than ever said Voss, who went on to enumerate issues of increasing concern for those in the faith community that include bio and techno ethics, technology in humans, questions of neuroscience and origins and the intermingling of human and animal parts in surgical settings.

“Christians should take leadership in science ethics. If Christians don’t take the lead in these issues, who will?” he queried. “True education must contain knowledge of God.”

“Most major universities were started by Christians—that has stopped. We need to be good Bereans,” Voss said, referencing the inhabitants of Berea who, after they heard the preaching of Paul and Silas, brought the teachings of scripture to bear on their day-to-day lives.

Things tend to grow where the Voss family goes. Voss and his wife Jeanette are the parents of nine children—eight boys and one girl. After arriving in Upland, the couple was instrumental in the launch of The King’s Academy, a Christian school for grades K-12. During the school’s inaugural year, only eight students, three of whom had the last name Voss, attended. Now the school has its own building in Jonesboro and is home to nearly 115 students.

Beyond The King’s Academy, the number of physics majors has grown as well—from ten students when he first arrived in the early 1990s to over 50 students today. This makes Taylor University one of the top undergraduate schools in the State of Indiana in terms of physics majors.

Beyond the heft of his schedule that includes classroom teaching, research and mentoring work, Voss plans to build an energy-efficient house and restore a 33-acre plot of land south of the Taylor campus.

He laughed when asked if he ever watches television, but admitted to watching the Indianapolis Colts. Voss describes his weekly regimen as six days at full speed and one day—the Sabbath—dedicated to rest and recovery.

“I love discovery, working with students, my family and building the kingdom. If you enjoy something, you can do a lot,” Voss said with a smile. “We just have to be innovative. I was made for it. I am doing what is in my DNA.”

“I love discovery, working with students, my family and building the kingdom. If you enjoy something, you can do a lot.”
Learning by doing
Students are immersed into scientific research
"Good mentoring is what I like to think of—one-on-one experience doing research or projects under a faculty mentor," said Voss. "It is much like the Oxford System where they are mentored by a faculty member. It is more like being in the garage working with your father."

Imagine working in the garage with your dad. That is how Dr. Hank Voss, director of Taylor's science research training program, describes student research at Taylor University.

During the past year, nearly 260 Taylor students were involved in projects ranging from high-altitude balloon launches, satellite instrument construction, studying lightning from space, working on a particle accelerator and writing software for not-for-profit organizations to the painstaking copying of journal entries written by Bishop William Taylor, research of other colleges' best practices and the creation of publications.

"Good mentoring is what I like to think of—one-on-one experience doing research or projects under a faculty mentor," said Voss. "It is much like the Oxford System where they are mentored by a faculty member. It is more like being in the garage working with your father."

Voss personally supervises 15 students on various projects. He admitted while he and his faculty colleagues find themselves stretched a bit thin with the demands of supervision and mentoring on top of their teaching loads, it is worth it.

"It is a win-win for the faculty member and it is an efficient way to learn," he said. "It is a big help for the students' résumé ... it teaches them how to work as a team and how to solve real problems (and) how to properly document and write up your results. If you are working on a real project you have to be professional. You can't do that in a lecture...It is immersion."
Jason Haupt spent ten weeks last summer clearing trash from a 600-acre plot of newly-acquired land and studying the plants and wildlife making their habitat there.
“God brought me somehow to Taylor. I am pretty sure it was His decision and not mine.”

Immersion is the right word for Sergey Milashuk ’08, a senior physics engineering major from Moscow, Russia. Milashuk has participated in a number of drilling projects searching for oil and water during his Taylor career.

“I was looking for universities. I read about Taylor University; I (had) heard about it in the news,” he said. “God brought me somehow to Taylor. I am pretty sure it was His decision and not mine.”

Milashuk, who was awarded a silver medal for exceptionally academic activities in Russia, has spent his time at Taylor learning the intricacies of drilling from auger versus rotary or circulation drilling to drill bits and torque. He won a grant last year to study a process that will allow additional barrels of oil to be wrung out of wells formerly considered marginal or unprofitable. He is also working on ways to drill for water for remote villages that do not have fresh drinking water. And all his work has taken place under the tutelage of Voss.

“I worked with him from the start,” Milashuk said. “I had my own ideas and tried to convince him ... (but) he had an idea for a new engine that nobody had thought about.”

Senior and first-year graduate student in the MES program Jason Haupt found that his summer research project involved not only study of a large tract of land but also the removal of barbed wire and tires—lots and lots of tires. Haupt spent ten weeks last summer clearing trash from a 600-acre plot of newly-acquired land and studying the plants and wildlife making their habitat there.

“(There were) raccoons, deer, red foxes, I know of at least two nesting pairs of hawks, turkey vultures, other larger birds of prey,” he said. “I’ve heard some owls and a lot of songbirds. There is a wide variety of wildlife.”

Haupt collected over 500 tires from the property that had been discarded by passersby, proving the old adage that there is no “away” to which one can discard trash. But beyond the manual labor, he also helped write usage and hunting policies for the land—a job that would normally be done by a professional with a graduate degree.

“For me personally, I am able to piggyback some of the stuff I did this summer with my master’s degree here. That was a huge advantage for me,” Haupt said. “That was the best part about it. I’m going to be able to use data I got this summer for my master’s thesis.”

“When they are looking for research assistants at a grad school you are just way ahead,” Voss said. “They don’t want somebody who is just book wise, but someone who can help with software. We are trying to get them to a graduate student level. They are thinking and working on real projects the same way they do at a master’s school.”

Milashuk said working for Voss was an excellent preparatory exercise for graduate school.

“It is exciting. He is really smart and his expectations are really high. He gets students involved,” Milashuk said. “With this probe (and) drilling equipment we are looking at impacting the world with our research and development. We have a really far-reaching vision.”

For more, visit www.taylor.edu/cri/rtp/.
Bringing history to life
Steve Messer brings history to life for Taylor students
“Think about us as Christians and the horror we express and feel about the way the Romans treated Christians,” said Messer. “For a lot of African-Americans, it is much more recent.”

It was like a scene from the motion picture Mississippi Burning, only Drs. Steve Messer and Alan Winquist, both professors in Taylor University’s history department, were living it as they found their car being tailed down a lonely road near Philadelphia, Miss. After following closely for a few hundred yards, the car passed them and then turned in front of them to cut them off.

Then an African-American man got out. He approached them and asked what they were doing at the Mt. Zion Methodist Church—the same one that burned in the film that depicts the slayings of civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner.

When Messer and Winquist told him they were from Taylor University and were scouting the area for future civil rights educational trips, the man replied that he was a deacon at the church and they had been experiencing vandalism lately and one could never be too cautious.

“Things have changed in significant ways, but the tensions are still there,” said Messer, who since that day in 1992 has led a series of faculty and student trips to the south to visit the locations where history was made during the civil rights struggles of a generation ago.

The Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma, Ala., where civil rights marchers were beaten and tear gassed by police; Dynamite Hill, a section in Birmingham (known then as Bombingham) where over 40 racially-motivated bombings took place; and the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn., where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated—Messer takes his students to a time and place that many have only read about. And the stories they hear from those they meet are equally riveting.

One supported the Montgomery bus boycotts; another was arrested by police; another said it had been 20 years since anyone had tried to kill him.

“Think about us as Christians and the horror we express and feel about the way the Romans treated Christians,” said Messer. “For a lot of African-Americans, it is much more recent.”

Messer grew up in the Midwest, largely shielded from the racial unrest of the 50s and 60s. His passion for the issue was birthed during his first teaching job at historically African-American Voorhees College (Denmark, SC). A watershed moment for him came during a lecture about the civil rights struggles of decades before when a non-traditional student hesitantly raised his hand and said that he had taken part in some of the demonstrations.

“My one brilliant move during my first year of teaching came when I sat down and let him lead the class. Here is this guy who has all of these stories. What other stories are there that others haven’t heard?” he reflected.

Along with stops in Philadelphia, Montgomery, Selma and Birmingham, Messer’s groups have visited numerous locations including Atlanta’s Ebenezer Baptist Church—the church of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Mason Temple in Memphis where King made his final speech and the home of the late civil rights leader Medgar Evers.

“It makes history come alive for the students,” said Winquist, who was with Messer that day in Philadelphia. “It was a great experience to go with Steve. He is the knowledgeable one in this. I learned a great deal being involved on these trips; I’d love to go again sometime.”

Julie Johnson, a sophomore elementary education major and daughter of missionaries, admitted she knew little about the civil rights movement before going on one of Messer’s trips last year.

“We got to be on the actual curb where Rosa Parks got on the bus. I wanted to have that firsthand experience,” she said. “It has immense value—especially for us.”

“When we went to Martin Luther King’s house we fell in love with the tour guide, just the way she had interesting anecdotes. She cared about his house. That is one thing that sticks out in my mind. There were so many insights from her own life.”

But in a deeper sense, the experience challenged Johnson, who said she struggled with whether she would have been faithful or pragmatic had she lived during those days.

“Sometimes I tend to be comfortable in my faith; if I see something that is wrong I don’t tend to stand up against it,” she confessed.

“The perseverance they had; they trusted God to stand up for them. I remember thinking about if I had lived in Montgomery at that time, would I have been involved in the bus boycott? It was kind of convicting.”

“I try to impress on students not every white person in history discriminated against blacks; that is still part of our consciousness,” Messer said. “I don’t think understanding history is a cure-all for the human condition, but understanding history can help us.”
Becoming Christ's hands and feet

Dr. Colleen Kraft has traveled from the United States to Africa and back again in an effort to stem the tide of HIV/AIDS.
S

he was a comparatively young woman; too young, in fact, to be so

sick. As Dr. Colleen (Kendrick '98) Kraft cared for her during her
dying days in a city hospital in Kampala, Uganda, her concerns turned
from her illness to what her eternal future might hold.

Her patient died from AIDS-related complications. The experience
was pivotal for Kraft, who was overwhelmed by the devastation
of HIV/AIDS in that area of the world. Five years later, Kraft is a
member of a legion of physicians and scientists who are scrambling to
get the upper hand on a disease that has killed over 25 million people
worldwide since its discovery a quarter century ago.

During the research portion of her infectious diseases fellowship
at the Emory Vaccine Center in Atlanta, Ga., Kraft has chosen to
study how HIV is transmitted in Africa, where the disease threatens
to upend economies, governments and social structures. Her research
focuses on the virologic aspect of transmission between couples in
Zambia.

When asked about her motivation for pursuing HIV/AIDS
research on the African continent, Kraft points to her experiences
in medical school when she traveled to Uganda and Kenya. She met
people dramatically impacted by the pandemic: women who turn
to prostitution after their husbands died, school girls forced to have
sex with their teachers for the privilege of remaining in school, and
millions of African children orphaned by the disease.

The situation in Africa stands in contrast to the patients she sees
in the inner city HIV/AIDS clinic affiliated with Grady Memorial
Hospital in Atlanta. “All of my patients, regardless of their income, are
able to have HIV medications and can lead long lives in this country;
they only have to choose to stay on their medications and keep
appointments,” said Kraft.

Her interactions with those who have contracted the disease are
focused on motivating the individual to stay healthy. “You’re not
going to change a person’s life because you’re judgmental,” she said.
“All around us are consequences of a fallen and sinful world; I believe
in being Christ’s hands and feet to those in need.”

Issues associated with HIV/AIDS have fascinated her for as long as
she can remember. Her interest in international medicine was piqued
in 1996 during a TWO trip to Ethiopia and a calling to international
health concerns began to materialize. “While I was gaining an interest
in medicine and studying pre-med to go to medical school, HIV was a
really hot topic. It fit right into my dream of doing infectious diseases
and was something I have always really been interested in,” she said.

Following her graduation from Taylor, Kraft went to the Indiana
University School of Medicine and graduated in 2002. She has
been at Emory since 2002, first as an internal medicine resident/
chief resident, and now in her infectious diseases fellowship. “Other
aspects such as hospital infections, tuberculosis, and tropical
medicine were interesting to me, but I had already done HIV research
in college at the Harvard School of Public Health, and STI (sexually
transmitted infections) research at IU when I was in medical school,”
she said.

Kraft hopes one day to be a physician/scientist in a developing
country doing both clinical and research work. Her husband Andy
Kraft ’96 plans to work with children orphaned by AIDS.

“I think that our faith and relationship
with Christ leads to wisdom, and I think
that is fostered at Taylor,” Kraft said. “I
learned to look at everything as a gift
from God, and that in hard times as well
as good, it was for growth.”

“Dr. Tim Burkholder ’63 was instrumental in giving me a research
project as a freshman in college and encouraging my research ability,”
she added. “Dr. Andrew Whipple taught me a lot about critical
thinking and was a good advisor when I was making the decision
between being a M.D or Ph.D. while I was a senior in college.

“My closest friend from college, Dr. Tim Walston, Ph.D. ’98, is
someone I still can bounce ideas off of today,” Kraft said. “I also used
the Taylor connection to contact Dr. Joseph Brain ’61 at Harvard,
which led to my experience there during college. Even though Taylor
may have been small compared to schools like Emory and IU, there
still was a lot for me there. My Taylor experience helped me attain
my goals.”
A Tribute to Elmer Nussbaum

Dr. Joe Brain reflects on his mentor
"A quiet, unassuming man, he awakened in me a passion for discovery and teaching—his vision still guides me after nearly 50 years."

Every college student should have the opportunity to be mentored by someone like Elmer Nussbaum '49. A quiet, unassuming man, he awakened in me a passion for discovery and teaching—his vision still guides me after nearly 50 years.

I came to Taylor University with a vague desire to study science or engineering; beyond that, there were no specific goals. One instinct served me well: I always sought out the most talented faculty.

That quest that led me to Jim Young, who directed the debate team and plays, Hazel Butz '38, who taught freshman composition and American literature, and Elmer Nussbaum, whose physics laboratory research and gentle suggestions shaped my life and career.

My road to Harvard actually began during the summer of 1959 when Dr. Nussbaum suggested that I work in his lab after the end of my sophomore year. The Nussbaums and Kruegers (Gordon '79 was also a faculty member at Taylor) made me part of their families. The Nussbaums' brick home, which was across the street from the Haakonsen's, was always a buzz of activity.

Dr. Nussbaum was never late for meetings and teaching; although I can't remember him being particularly early either! He always found time to give his children something educational and interesting to play with during their frequent visits to his laboratory and to provide explanations for their abundant questions. During that summer I read stories to their daughter Sonia '79, took their daughter Kathleen '77 on bicycle rides around Upland, went on road trips to Chicago with their son Paul x'74 to deliver grant proposals, and spent time with Mark '82, who most often dropped in to his father's lab.

It was a memorable summer. The Nussbaums treated me as if I were a member of their family. But something else happened that summer. It was then that I learned what it meant to develop a hypothesis, craft an experimental design, test it, and finally, to collect and interpret reliable data. The values and habits I learned that summer from Dr. Nussbaum are still my tool set.
“Dr. Nussbaum had a profound impact on my life and the lives of many of his scientific children.”
During my junior year, he made another suggestion—that I apply for a summer internship at Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago. Dr. Nussbaum told me where to apply and wrote a strong recommendation letter. I followed his advice and was accepted both that summer and the summer after my senior year. In retrospect, that summer and the following two summers of research were critical as I applied for fellowships for graduate work and applied to universities with strong programs in nuclear physics. I will forever be grateful to him for his interest in me and his catalytic role in getting me started on a career at Harvard that has lasted 46 years and continues to be challenging and completely enjoyable.

It was also Dr. Nussbaum who introduced me to the pleasures of teaching. He loved to set up labs and created excitement and discovery with very limited resources. In my senior year, he invited me to give all the lectures for Physical Science Survey: Dr. Nussbaum did the labs and I gave all the lectures. I still have a teaching contract signed by Milo Rediger. I was paid $300 for the entire semester; it seemed like a lot of money at the time and the fact that I could do something that I enjoyed and get paid for it convinced me that I wanted to be a college professor—like Dr. Nussbaum.

Elmer persists in my mind as a paradox: I remember him as a thorough workaholic; it was not unusual to visit his office or lab during evenings and weekends and find him there. Still, he was a committed husband and father and always had time for his wife, his children, his church and the Upland Lion’s Club.

When Dr. Walt Randall ’38 decided to retire from Taylor’s Board of Trustees, he and Dr. Nussbaum persuaded me that the board needed someone to be an advocate for the faculty. I still am guided by that mandate. For the first 15 years, when I came to Taylor for board meetings, I stayed with the Nussbaums. I always felt at home.

After his wife Ruth ’48 died and as Dr. Nussbaum’s Parkinson’s disease continued to advance, I was always amazed at how hard he worked to maintain his independence. He continued to value his contacts with the physics department and was a presence there until he left Upland. He rode his bicycle whenever he could, and I was impressed with the constancy of his positive attitude. His disability came and went, but his optimism persisted. If there was some dark corner of regret or resentment about his illness, I never saw it.

When he moved to a retirement home in Indianapolis, his level of activity seemed undiminished. His cluttered room reflected his busy mind and he continued to be interested in everything from science and religion to the stock market. During our visits, I remember seeing Science Magazine, The Wall Street Journal and a Bible on his bedside table.

Dr. Nussbaum had a profound impact on my life and the lives of many of his scientific children. I know that others have similar stories. His influence will live on for generations to come.

It was Dr. Nussbaum who introduced me to the thrill of scientific discovery and awakened in me that desire to share it with others. For that, I will be eternally grateful.
Members of the Class of '57 pose in front of the Memorial Prayer Chapel construction site during Homecoming in October. The class gave the largest gift to the University in Taylor's history—over $3.3 million, with almost $300,000 supporting construction of the Prayer Chapel. University officials are working to raise the final $400,000 for the project. For more information, visit www.taylor.edu/edify.
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alumni notes
keeping connected with friends

1941
Elizabeth (Carpenter) Muller passed away on April 12, 2007, in Duarte, Calif. She fulfilled her dream of becoming a missionary nurse and served in Iran for forty years with her husband Art. Beth is survived by four daughters, three grandchildren and sister Margaret (Slyuter ’39) Briggs.

1942
Mildred (Burdon) Rossell died on July 18, 2007, in New Lisbon, NJ. She was noted for her music and singing voice. Sister Sarah (Burdon ’45) Chrismer survives.

1946
Miriam (Pallotta) Faia passed away on July 31, 2007, in Chicago, Ill. Surviving is her husband Fred x’52.

1950
Rev. Bruce Charles died on Feb. 13, 2007. He was a United Methodist Church minister in Ohio for almost 40 years. Wife Betty (Cole x’51) survives.

1953
Barbara Owen passed away on July 7, 2007, after a struggle with cancer. She lived in Fresno, Calif.

1954
Willetta (Hunter) Vest was recently honored for 36 years as treasurer of the Bethel Church in Gaston, Ind.

1959
It had been almost 48 years since many of these alumnae had seen one another. They gathered together for this mini-reunion at the home of Sherry (Perkins) Gormanous in Kenilworth, Ill. Pictured in the front row (L-R): Norma Jean (Walker x) Cotner, Gretchen (Miller) Loomis, Sherry (Perkins) Gormanous, Janet Berst, and Lorry (Rioux) Dahl. Back row: Bob Cotner ’58, Al Loomis, Ron & Rosalie (Clausen ’60) Valutis.

1964
Stanley Handschu died on March 12, 2007, in Ft. Wayne, Ind. He spent his entire professional career in education at Marion Community Schools (Ind.). Wife Elaine (Warner x’60) survives. • Darlene (Driscal) Krebs went to be with the Lord on Jan. 27, 2007, in Cass City, Mich. after a battle with leukemia.

1968
Leslie Bartlett has opened his own business as a piano technician after many years in full-time church work. He lives in Houston, Tex. Email is l-bartlett@sbcglobal.net.

1969
Dennis & Kay (Elkins ’70) Ice were honored for 25 years of service to Grace Baptist Church and Heritage Hall Christian School (Muncie, Ind.). Dennis is headmaster of the school, has held the position of executive director for the Indiana Association of Christian Schools for 20 years, and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Christian Schools.

1970
Bobbi (Murfin) Diller took disability retirement from teaching in 2000 after a diagnosis of MS in 1991. Husband Bob recently retired from working at the Kennedy Space Center. They plan to relocate to the Tennessee/Carolina area for the winter, continuing to spend May through November in Maine. • John Yantiss has moved to 10508 Mallard Glen Ct., Indianapolis, Ind. 46239.

1972
Faye (Walker) Rhodes has contributed to a recently released book, The LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Idea Book. She has her own book of NXT animal robot designs which will be published by No Starch Press early next year. She is one of 30 people from around the world in an invitation-only group called the MINDSTORMS Community Partners. The purpose of the group is to advise LEGO on MINDSTORMS product development and marketing.

1975
Larry Taylor accepted the position of Creative Director for Livingstone Corp. in Carol Stream, Ill., the largest book packager in the Christian Booksellers Assoc. He & wife Karen (Rudolph ’76) live in West Chicago where they are just now beginning to enjoy the empty nest syndrome after raising three fantastic kids!

1977
Scott Pursley is senior pastor of the Lamb of God Fellowship in West Orange, NJ. • Jay & Ruth (Faul x) Smith continue to operate a home-based landscaping and market garden business. Jay also serves as a downtown development and historic preservation consultant. They request prayer for their twin sons Jason and Joshua (19) who will deploy to Iraq in Jan. 2008 with the Ohio National Guard unit. • Dr. Richard Haak, husband of Dr. Becky (Kerlin) Haak, peacefully entered the arms of his Savior on July 5, 2007. Dr. Haak was an administrator and professor of microbiology at IU School of Medicine. Becky continues to live in Danville, Ind.

1978
Dr. David Ellis is a third-year medical student at The University of The Gambia Medical School in Banjul, studying tropical
1981
Martha (Palmer) Chambers

earned an MA in Religion from Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry. Now that she has answered God’s call to seminary, she is praying and waiting to see what God has next for her. • David & Susan (Hartman) Poucher are excited to return to Taylor. David is instructor of accounting and finance; Susan is secretary to the director of American ethnic student programs. Email is poucherdavid@yahoo.com. • Tim Wesolet was recently elected to a two-year term as president of the Frederick (Md.) Community College board of trustees. Tim continues to work at WHAG-TV in sales and lives in the historic district of downtown Frederick with wife Julie and daughter Anne.

1982
Laurice (Groenier) Green is national clinical director for Maxim Healthcare/CareFocus in Knoxville, Tenn. Email is lagreen@maxhealth.com.

1983
David Adams earned a PhD in theology from Vision Intl. He lives in Knoxville, Tenn. • Mike Leburg currently lives in Lea, Ind., where he is receiving treatments for stage four colon and lung cancer. He is on a leave of absence from the pastorate. He would appreciate your prayers. Email is mleburg@nccumc.org.

1984
Troy & Jo (Cockrell ’81) Spencer reside in Olathe, Kans. Jo teaches 4th grade and is an adjunct professor at a nearby university. Troy works for GEHA insurance as an administrator. Children are Jaeklynn (11) and Bailey (6). They would love to hear from Taylor friends at troyjojos@embarqmail.com. • Ralph Thompson is assistant chief of the Plano Fire Department in Plano, Tex.

1985

Jeff ‘85 & son J.J. Fratus

Jeff & Shelley (Stone ’88) Fratus and two sons J.J. (pictured) and Carson live in Knoxville, Tenn. Jeff is a sales representative for BHS Corrugated and along with Shelley coaches a middle school cross country team. Shelley sings with the Knoxville Opera Chorus and with the University of Tennessee Opera as she pursues a degree in vocal sacred music performance.

1987

1988
Joseph & Becky (Shannon) Leija are the proud parents of Zackary Joseph born August 31, 2006. Brother Jayden is 3. They live in Newark, Ohio.

1989
Eric & Beverly (Stoops ’88) Graham now live in Hickory, NC. Eli (9), Madeline (7), Carson (6) and Aliza (1) enjoy their new home. Email is grahamcrackers5@charter.net. • John & Jen (Johnson) Hartley have four daughters: Annie (11), Emily (9), Sophie (7) and Lucie (4). John pastores a church and Jen leads a women’s Bible study. They reside in Vermont.

1990
Scott & Becky (Roost) Brown

live in Tempe, Ariz., where Scott is the senior pastor of New Valley Church (PCA). Sons are Jacob (9), Carter (7) and Zachary (6). • Rick & Kathy (Saylor) Germaine joyfully announce the birth of Grace Meadows on April 7, 2007. Brothers are (Kathy’s stepsons) Hunter (12), Scout (8) and Chase (6). The family lives in Sudbury, Mass. Kathy teaches 2nd grade. • Eric & Donna (Mickelson) Misener are the proud parents of Natalie Jean born Dec. 19, 2006. Sisters are Emily (8) and Mallory (11). Email is emisener@sbcglobal.net.

alumni notes

• Darren Hotmire is employed by Osceola Middle School in Okeechobee, Fla. He & wife Carol have three children. Email is dhotmire@msn.com. • Dan & Denise McLaughlin welcome Danielle Renee born May 3, 2007. Brother David is 2. Dan is associate pastor at a church in Franklin, Ind. The family lives in Bargersville. Email is pastordan@franklinccc.org.
alumni notes

1991
Mark & Sheri (Russell) Daubenmier live in Gahanna, Ohio, where Mark continues to teach computer science at an independent high school. In Feb. 2007, God grew their family to include Grace Fitsum (8) and Daniel Kassahun (5), adopted from Ethiopia. They join Megan (11), Emily (10), Nathan (8) and Michael (5). Sheri works full-time at home and homeschools some of the children. Email them at sheridaubenmier@gmail.com or mark.daubenmier@gmail.com. • Rebecca (Hubbard) Maniglia completed her PhD in criminal justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She & husband Joe ’88 have relocated to Flagstaff where Rebecca is assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Northern Arizona University.

1992
Bose McKinney & Evans LLP is pleased to announce that Matthew Klein was a finalist in the law category for the 2007 Indy’s Best and Brightest. Indy’s Best and Brightest will honor 100 of Central Indiana’s outstanding young professionals who are making their mark in and around Indianapolis. As an associate in the Environmental Law Group, Klein represents clients involved in administrative, civil and criminal enforcement proceedings, environmental litigation, permitting, brownfield re-development and environmental aspects of real estate transactions. • Kenyon & Ginger Knapp are pleased to announce the birth of Jackson Emmitt on July 20, 2007. Siblings are Kenny (5), Bella (3) and Sam (1). They live in Prattsburg, Ala. • Kay (Harvey) and Bill Stomp joyfully announce the birth of their daughter, Alyssa Grace, born March 21, 2007. Older siblings are William (6), Brianna (4), and Katelyn (2). Bill is a regional distribution manager with Suburban Propane and Kay is a busy stay-at-home mom. They would love to hear from old Taylor friends. Email is bkstopm@yahoo.com and regular mail is 1325 Lomond Drive, Midlothian, VA 23114.

1993
Josephine “Josie” Noelle was born to John & Kristin (Irish) Kile on Dec. 25, 2005. Big sister Kendra is 6. Kristin enjoys being home with the girls and is homeschooling Kendra. Email them at jkkile@gmail.com. • Missy (Wolgemuth) Schrader joins Wolgemuth & Associates, Inc. primarily as Robert ’69 & Bobbie’s (Gardner ’72) personal assistant. She works out of the Charlotte NC office. • David & Janet Wehrle and children moved to Wilmore, Ky, where David has begun the Beeson Pastor Doctor of Ministry program at Asbury Theological Seminary.

1994
David Chamberlin is managing director at Public Strategies, Inc. He currently heads the Perot Systems account in Dallas where he is responsible for global corporate communications. He and his family live in Allen, Tex.

• Eric Hehman is head football coach at Greenville College. Eric, wife Liz and son Matthew (1) live in Greenville, Ill. Email is eric.hehman@greenville.edu. • Several Taylor men were a part of Bryan Jacobs’ wedding on May 26, 2007.

Bryan Jacobs ’94
From L-R are: Todd Fox ’93, Ryan Smith ’95, Bryan Jacobs, Eric Smith ’93, Jamie Kenney and Erik Hotmire ’95. • Christopher (Kip) Kline was invited to give the Phil Smith Lecture at the Ohio Valley Philosophy of Education Society meeting. He presented the paper “Black Existentialism and Youth Culture: Examining the Cipher from Doo-Wop to Hip-Hop.” Kline recently earned a PhD in philosophy of education from IU. He is an assistant professor at Lewis University. In addition, Christopher & wife Nicole are the proud parents of Kanoa Cornell Lee-Kline born Feb. 18, 2007. • While Matt Moller of Noblesville, Ind., was attending the Civil War Preservation Trust Teacher’s Institute in Chattanooga, Tenn.,
Rob Sager  Greensboro, NC, was in the same area conducting business. This was a reunion of former four-year Morris Hall roommates.

1995

John DeKruyter is working on a master’s in Biblical history and historical geography at Jerusalem University. In early 2008, John & family will return to the U.S. and live in Mich. Email is jdekruyter@jasnetworks.net. • Amy Roth married Paul Avila on Sept. 23, 2006, in O’Fallon, Ill. Amy is a middle school guidance counselor and Paul is a network engineer for three hospitals in the city of St. Louis. Amy’s email is aroth@centurytel.net. • Tim Taylor was ordained on July 8, 2007, in the Reformed Church in America where his father Ken Taylor ’66 (admissions office) and Dr. Richard Allen Farmer (former TU dean of the chapel) participated. Tim is senior pastor of the Hope Reformed Church in Grand Haven, Mich. He & wife Tricia were blessed with the birth of Kari Joy on Feb. 18, 2007. Siblings are Annah (6) and Gabriel (5). They reside in Coopersville, Mich.

1996

JL & Grace (Morrison ’97) Guedet are the thankful parents of Tyler born April 4, 2007. Siblings are Natalie (8) and JL (6). They live in Washington, Ill. • Becky Henderson is an aftercare fellow for the Intl Justice Mission, a Christian human rights organization. She is spending a year in South Asia on a fellowship and will assist social workers as they develop programs to aid rescued victims of bonded slavery. • Matthew Lutz is a teacher at Rio Rancho HS in New Mexico. He has an MFA from the University of N.M. Matt, wife Alexandra (Patterson) and son Jacob (10) live in Rio Rancho. • Jason & Nora Miles joyfully announce the birth of John Michael and James Daniel on Feb. 20, 2007. Brother Peter is 2. The family resides in Carol Stream, Ill. Jason continues as cost accountant at Peacock Engineering Co. and would love to hear from Taylor friends! Email is jasonnora@sbcglobal.net. • Jim & Amy (Bell) Spiegel are the proud parents of four children: Bailey (8), Samuel (5), Magdalene (3) and Andrew (1). They live in Fairmount, Ind. Email is amyspieg@gmail.com.

Hodson remembered as a kind and godly man

Arthur Hodson x’34 was the president of the Upland Bank 54 years ago when a new student at Taylor University approached him for a loan. Hodson listened to his predicament and then thoughtfully asked what collateral this student could offer against the loan. The student answered that all he possessed was his honesty and a good work ethic.

Whether or not it was against his better judgment, Hodson gave the student the money and later helped him arrange his finances so he could graduate in 1958. The connection formed that day cemented a lifelong friendship between Hodson the banker and the student—Jay Kesler ’58.

“I thought of Art as a very kind man,” Kesler related. “He was a typical small town banker; he knew everybody’s dreams.”

Hodson died July 14 in Muncie, Ind., at the age of 94. A former Board of Trustees member, he was a benefactor of Taylor University, Indiana Wesleyan University and White’s Institute. For many years Hodson, his wife Mary and his mother were often seen eating their Sunday dinner in the Dining Commons that bears his name.

Following Mary’s death, Hodson met and later married Nelle (Leisman ’43) Alspaugh. Their wedding was officiated by Kesler. She died in 2005.

Kesler spoke warmly of his memories of the newlywed couple during their twilight years. “They had devotions every day. It was one of the happiest things. After breakfast, they would drink their coffee and read their Bibles together.”

“Art was a very godly man but he didn’t wear it on his sleeve,” Kesler added. “You would never doubt that he was being led by Christian principles.”
Music for the ages

...outside the village bounds. The song and words carry significant meaning for thousands of Taylor alumni who have sung it faithfully throughout the years—100 of them in fact.

Taylor's venerable alma mater turned 100 this year without fanfare or any other celebration. That may be because the same is itself a staple of celebration. Much like Happy Birthday or Auld Lang Syne, the Taylor Song is sung at special events from homecoming to commencement.

Written by Melvin J. Hill Jr. (1968 that is), the towers seen from campus were Taylor's first towers that were part of the former H. Maria Wright Hall. The building, which stood northwest of the Helena Building, was destroyed by fire nearly 40 years ago, but the song remains.

Following the construction and dedication of the Rice Hall IT was in 1966, Taylor once again had towers that could be seen for miles, even when the sky is clear.

According to the story in the Spring 2002 Taylor magazine, Hill wrote the song while a student at the Taylor University Academy of Music. It was first published in the 1967 Taylor yearbook.

Through the years, the tune and lyrics have come to symbolize the devotion that alumni feel in their hearts toward their alma mater. When you get a lump in your throat and a tear in your eye as you sing this song, you will know that it has gotten hold of you!" said Jay Kusker '51.

1997

Andy Ankeny is the head football coach at The University of LaVerne. The Ankeny family has moved to southern California and would love to connect with any Taylor alumni! Email is aakeny@ulv.edu. • Jim & Carrie (Barnhart) Brothers are
also have a primary school and a home for girls. Kimberly is the teacher and administrator, and Dave is the pastor and missions field director. God has grown their ministry far faster than they could have anticipated. Email is kimberlyinkenya@gmail.com.

Ann Winterholter married Brian Wright on June 30, 2007. She is features editor for The Grand Junction Sentinel. The couple lives in Grand Junction, Colo. Email is writeandrun@hotmail.com.

1998

Jeff & Sarah (King ’99) Bontrager have relocated to Indianapolis from Nashville, Tenn., for Jeff's residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at IU School of Medicine. Sarah has a master's in marriage and family therapy from Trevecca Nazarene University and Jeff has an MD in internal medicine and pediatrics from Vanderbilt University. They rejoice in the birth of Samuel Jay on April 11, 2007. Brother Ethan is 4. Email is sarah7king@hotmail.com.

• Ken & Laura (Fortner) Bubp
announce the birth of Julia Faith on Feb. 5, 2007. Laura stays at home with Julia and volunteers for various orangutan-related causes, while Ken is the chief operating officer at Conner Prairie, an outdoor history museum. Email them at hdif@juno.com. • Erin Carter married Fred Danowski on June 9, 2007, in Wilton, Conn. Rev. Charles Gifford ’69 performed the ceremony and Jill (Grapes ’99) Hernandez and Krista (Morris ’98) Lehman were participants. The couple lives at 50 Fairview Ave. #3D, Norwalk, Conn. 06850. Email is fredanderin@hotmail.com. • Matthew & Angela (DelaCruz) Colby celebrate the birth of twins recently moved to Palatine, Ill., where Jason is the area director for Young Life. • Anthony Gerig is an assistant professor of physics at Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wis. • Nate & Christie Grubaugh announce the birth of Amaris Joy on Dec. 20, 2006. Amaris means “Promised by God.” Nate continues to teach and coach at Detroit Country Day School. • Nathan Swartzendruber and Becca Tice were married in Muncie Ind., on May 20, 2006. They live in Cincinnati were Becca is pursuing a master’s in mental health counseling. Nathan is a data analyst for a hospital network. • Greg, Christine (Poosawtsee) and big sister Abigail Vlietstra welcomed Jenna the arrival of H. Bryce on April 4, 2007. Big sister Delana Joy is 3. • Clifton & Amber Johnson are thankful parents of Samuel Cooksey born Jan. 2, 2007. They reside in Chicago, Ill. Email is cnvlietstra@hotmail.com. • Jason & Kristi (Grant) Werre brought daughter Daya home from Calcutta, India, in March 2007 after a two-year adoption process. Siblings are Alexander (6) and Elijah (4). Daya is now 2. • Rob & Nicole (Bragg ’01) Geiger-Pergrem are blessed to announce 1999 Vi Coulter graduated from Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis with an MDiv in May 2007. She is hoping to do translation work with Wycliffe Bible Translators overseas. • Preparing to announce the birth of David Scott on Dec. 5, 2006. Scott is a teacher and Erin is a stay-at-home mom. Proud grandparents are Nelson ’66 & Beth (Stebbins x’73) Rediger. • Ryan & Laurie (Dunkerton) Mitchell and family have moved to Cranford, N.J., where Ryan is now a teacher and football and track coach at St. Mary’s HS. • Lauri DiDonato married Christopher Palmer on April 7, 2007. Lauri is a math teacher at Cherokee HS. They live in Marlton, N.J. Email is palmer4707@gmail.com.
alumni notes

- Eric Bentson and Lisa Schubert were married on July 15, 2007, at Culver Lake Chapel in Branchville, N.J. Eric works for Sungard in the field of equity trading and Lisa is a retirement counselor for Erickson Retirement Communities. Email is bentson@gmail.com. He’d love to hear from Taylor friends!

- Kristin Bryant and Thomas Parker wed

- Jason & Robin (Allison) Gardner announce the birth of Autumn Elizabeth on August 18, 2006. Jason is head band director at Mt. Vernon HS and Robin teaches 7th grade English at Madison-Grant Jr. High. They live in Fortville, Ind. Jennifer Olson and Ed Espinosa were married on July 7, 2007. Jennifer is a French teacher at Elkhart Community Schools. The couple resides in Goshen, Ind.

- Jayson & Tarrah Palm joyfully announce the birth of Sydney Lou on June 19, 2006. Siblings are Anibel (4) and James Marshall IV (2).

2001

Corey & Erin (Braham) Hall proudly announce the birth of Jacqueline Marie on April 8, 2006. Erin is a deputy attorney general in the State of Indiana Attorney General’s Office. The Hall family attends Redeemer Presbyterian Church where Erin serves as the children’s worship director. Corey is the chief studio engineer for Musical DNA Software Co. Email is erinlisahall@hotmail.com.

- Jeanette Hensley married Kyle Sagarsee on June 24, 2006, in Ft. Wayne, Ind. Jeanette is a music teacher for Elkhart Community Schools and Kyle works in IT at the Granger Community Church. They live in South Bend, Ind. Email is jillette12@gmail.com.

- Melissa Hubley wed Chris Bender on June 30, 2007. They reside in Arlington, Virg. Dr. Jill Ogline earned an MA in History in 2003 and a PhD in History in May 2007, both from the University of Mass. She is now the associate director of the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience, Washington College. Email is jill.ogline@gmail.com.

- Justin & Lori (Jackson ‘02) O’Rourke are excited to announce the birth of Kaylin on June 23, 2007. The family resides in Marion, Iowa. John Passonen received an MBA from Duke University in May 2007. He moved to London, England, and joined American Express as a manager in the international business and partnership development group.

If anyone is visiting London, drop John an email at jpaasonen@gmail.com.

- Daniel & Dana Taylor are the proud parents of Naomi Christine born August 12, 2006. Daniel is a technical communicator for Ontario Systems in Muncie, Ind.

2002


- Matthew & Brittany (Miller x) Bricker are the thankful parents of Cadence Elizabeth born May 15, 2007. The family lives in Fishers, Ind.

- Ben & Erin (Johnson ’03) Essenburg welcomed Clare on Jan. 4, 2007. Ben is the upper school director at Rossman School. Erin enjoys staying home with Clare and teaching piano lessons. The family resides in St. Louis, Mo.


- Ivar Isacsson is branch manager for Countrywide Home Loans in Sarasota, Fla.
• Adam & Julia Lynch began their lives together on June 17, 2006. They live in San Diego, Calif. Julia is a hairstylist while Adam is pursuing a master’s in marriage and family therapy at Bethel Seminary. He also keeps the world caffeinated working at Starbucks! They are thankful for all that Lord has done in their lives.

2003
Leslie Bradford is grateful for the arrival of Elijah on Feb. 17, 2007. They live in Marion, Ind.

• Katie Feenstra and Michael Barnes were married on Dec. 23, 2005. Katie is a family nurse practitioner. Michael is the vocalist in the Christian rock band RED. Email is feensk@spu.edu.

• Andrew & Corinne (Taylor) Montieth are grateful for the health of Carter Taylor born six weeks early on June 10, 2006. Sister Katie (2) was thrilled when he finally got to come home. They reside in Brownsburg, Ind.

• Kevin & Danielle (Walker) Williams are the proud parents of Benjamin James born June 11, 2007. Their home is in Aurora, Ill.

2004
Heather (Morrow) Henson is senior pastor of Wilton Center Federated Church. She completed an MDiv from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in June 2007. She & husband Greg live in Manhattan, Ill.

• Jerry & Jessica (Maple) Kincaid thankfully announce the birth of Andrew

Spring trip to Greece
The office of alumni and parent relations at Taylor University is sponsoring a trip during 2008 spring break to Greece. The group leaves March 21 and returns March 30 and will be led by Jerry and Connie Cramer. While there, travelers will see historic sites and enjoy music by the Taylor University Chorale in selected venues.

“Having the opportunity to journey in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul with the added privilege of hearing the Taylor Chorale in concert makes this an extraordinary travel opportunity,” said Cramer, director of parent programs at Taylor.

“Greece is a nation of history, culture and beauty,” he added.

“This trip will provide an unforgettable experience for our alumni, students and friends.”

For more information, visit www.tayloredu/parents/greece.html, or call 765-998-5112.

Vancouver trip planned for May 2008
Taylor University alumni and friends are invited to a trip to Vancouver, BC, hosted by Dr. Faye Chechowich ’74, Joyce Helyer and Lisa Sells, May 1 - 5, 2008. While there, the group will visit Vancouver Island, enjoy a ferry ride to Victoria and Butchart Gardens, tour the city of Vancouver, take excursions to the mountains, enjoy amazing scenery and much more.

Dr. Chechowich will be the devotional speaker for the trip. We look forward to strengthening our Taylor friendships and making new friends. To make a reservation or for additional information, contact Joyce Helyer at jhelyer@tayloredu or call her at 765-997-3025.

Have info for Alumni Notes?
Taylor welcomes all submissions to the alumni notes. Due to space limitations, not all news items or photographs may be published. We will make every effort to print as many timely news items and photographs as possible. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and content.

You can send updates to us via email at alumni@tayloredu, or by regular mail at 236 W. Reade Avenue, Upland, Ind. 46989. Please include clearly labeled pictures (which will only be published if alumni are in the photo). We will return prints if requested.

You may also submit information to Marty Songer at (800) 882-3456, ext. 5212. Thanks for keeping in touch with your alma mater!
alumni notes

on Nov. 29, 2006. The family lives in Chicago. • After graduation, Katherine Oquist went to Chile to teach English and then met and married Dick Valdivieso from Ecuador. They now have a son Giovanni (1) and have moved to Omaha, Neb. She would love to hear from TU friends at katie.oquist@majen.net. • Lynette Peterson married Drew Giese in Green Bay, Wisc., on Feb. 17, 2007. Lynette teaches private voice and piano lessons and works as a stylist for a salon in De Pere, Wis. She & Drew can be reached at 232 N. Superior St. Apt. B, De Pere, WI 54115. Email is nettygiese@gmail.com. • Adam & Joy (Ruberg) Perry welcome the new addition to their family, Faith Marie, on Dec. 5, 2006. Adam works at Taylor as a graphic designer and photographer. Joy was teaching, but will be a full-time mom for awhile! They reside in Gas City, Ind. Email is joymperry@gmail.com. • Lauren Smith married Steve DeVries on May 26, 2007. They are the owners of Media Production Services and live in Traverse City, Mich. • Jeff & Melissa (Titus) Tsai recently celebrated their one-year anniversary. They reside in Pittsburgh, Penn. Melissa helps manage a European fine art gallery and Jeff is an administrator at the Pittsburgh Symphony while studying part-time for an MBA at Carnegie Mellon. Email is tsailog@gmail.com. • Kristina Kline wed Aaron Whiting on June 23, 2006. Kristina is a customer service specialist for MEGlobal Americas, Inc. They ask for prayers for diligence in paying off school loans.

2005

A Gerig Hall Reunion was held July 13-15, 2007 at the Indiana Dunes. In attendance were Matthew Wissman, Alisse Goldsmith ’08, Josh ’04 & Beth (Reddick ’04) Zapf, Sopeak x & Zay (Achgil ’07) Duch, Emily Brown ’04, Bethany Folkins, Alison Orpurt ’07, Anna Culy ’07, Katie James ’07, David Kaspar ’04, Brent ’02 & Sara (Chambers ’06) Gerig, Paul ’04 & Ashley (Peck) Borrego, David ’04 & Ann (Ebert ’06) O’Neill, Corinne Carpenter x ’04, Joanna (LaForge) Burruss ’06, and Andrew ’06 & Cindy (Robinson ’08) Ramsey. • Andrea Butcher married Dusty DiSanto on June 1, 2007, in Grosse Pointe, Mich. They live in Muncie, Ind. Email is andreadisanto@gmail.com. • From Aug. 2005-Sept. 2006, Ben Gastright was in Prague teaching English to high school students. They were married on July 8, 2007, and now live in North Dallas, Tex. They are working, going to school and involved at Watermark Church. • Scott Little earned an MS in physics from Ball State University in May 2007. He is now a PhD student at the University of Toledo. Email is scott.little@utoledo.edu. • Jon Schwander is senior auditor for Dauby O’Connor & Zaleski. He and wife Esther (Osladil ’06) live in Fishers, Ind. • David & Amy (Sinclair) Tripple have moved to Cedar Park, Texas, where they continue teaching. For a year they were in Shenyang, China, where David taught middle school social studies and Amy taught 2nd grade.

2006

Bryan Jackson married Jenna Rogers on August 5, 2006. They live in Muncie, Ind. • Alyssa Lin & Joshua Canada ’07
were married on May 26, 2007, in Champaign, Ill. Joshua is a special programs coordinator at Generations of Hope and Alyssa is finishing an MSW at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.  

• Andy Long wed Beth Johnson on July 7, 2007. He is a sales manager for Royal Automotive Group. They reside in Bloomington, Ind.  


• Mandy Reusser received a certificate for teaching English as a foreign language in Koh Samui, Thailand. She is now teaching language arts and English as a second language at Okeechobee HS in Okeechobee, Fla. Email is mandyreusser@gmail.com.  

• Tressa Ribaudo and Aaron Weber ’05 wed on Sept. 2, 2006. Tressa is a personal trainer for Genesis Health Clubs and is a certified strength and conditioning specialist.  

2007  

Kerrie Schene works at Taylor as assistant to print and online communication and assistant hall director of English/Haakonsen Hall. Email is krschene@taylor.edu.  

2009  


Different decade, same result

As members of the Trojan cross-country team, 1987 graduates Nate Bowman, Jeff Peterson, Brian Shepherd and Quinn White ran their way to NCCAA titles and continued a tradition of great running at Taylor.

On May 27, they reunited for another race—an 8K—once again the result was a win. The foursome formed a relay team and ran the Futaba Marathon, where they won the masters division.

According to White, now a faculty member in Taylor's education department, the running and the fellowship made the long drive pay off. “It was fantastic. It was like we had not even missed a day,” he said.

The first three runners ran 13 kilometers while the anchor runner did 12K. Peterson ran the opening leg, then continued for the rest of the marathon, finishing in a little over three hours.

“We were pushing it as fast as we could,” White laughed. “Jeff was right at 3:15, what hurt him was he went out so hard for the team then he settled back into pace. He sacrificed his overall run for us.”

White said the friendships formed nearly a quarter century ago have grown stronger with the passage of time.

“It was great to catch up and find out how everyone’s families were doing and how our walk with God was going, just to be together again; it felt so natural,” he said. “God bonded us … when we all came together our freshman year. That strength of the bond was just as strong as ever.”
Board member emeritus Art Muselman '52 and his wife Gloria died Aug. 30 in an auto accident.

Mr. Muselman was named an emeritus member of the board in 2005 following 18 years of service. During his tenure, he was on the steering committee for the Taylor Tomorrow Capital Campaign, which raised an unprecedented $79 million dollars.

The Muselmans were past members of Taylor’s Parents Cabinet and were named Distinguished Parents in 1987. Mr. and Mrs. Muselman were also members of Taylor’s Council of 100, a society that honors the university’s most generous financial partners. The couple’s daughter Karen (Muselman ’87) Thomas, their son Roger ’86 and his wife Naomi (Humphrey ’87) are Taylor graduates.

“We are deeply saddened to hear the tragic news of the deaths of Art and Gloria Muselman,” said Dr. Eugene B. Habecker, Taylor president. “Art and Gloria were known for their distinctive love for their Lord, family, friends, the Berne, Ind., community and Taylor University.”

Muselmans were beloved parents and friends

One of the unique advantages and joys of working in a Christian higher education setting is becoming acquainted with the parents of the students who study at Taylor. For 22 of our 27 years at Taylor, Art ’52 and Gloria Muselman were not only acquaintances but treasured friends.

On August 30, in a single moment—not unlike Enoch—they were ushered from this earth into heaven. While the shock of their departure has not yet worn off, we have been struck by the godly legacy they have left behind not only for us personally, but also for their dear family and multitude of friends.

In 1987, Art and Gloria received, and well deserved, Taylor’s Distinguished Parents award. We smile while remembering that Art—a brilliant and savvy businessman—was so nervous about giving his acceptance speech that he could not eat his dinner. Afterwards, they took us out for pizza—because Art was hungry. It was over pizza that Art shared with us the news that he had just been invited to serve on Taylor’s Board of Trustees.

We were also there to witness Gloria’s receipt of the Taylor 1998 Distinguished Friend Award. And she was indeed a friend to so many. In Gloria’s many correspondences she never closed without mentioning that their Berne and Florida front doors were always open. We were blessed to be able to spend time in both of their homes and to receive the gracious hospitality that Gloria was famous for. Through the years and because of Gloria’s example, we have sought to emulate her spirit of hospitality to others.

Together, Art and Gloria personally modeled for us the characteristics of simple servanthood, humility, selflessness and generosity. Their friendship and thoughtfulness toward us was demonstrated over and over as they never missed any of our family’s big events. Flashy appearances and material things were unimportant but rather relationships with friends and family were the obvious priority for both of them.

Above all else, Art and Gloria were vibrant examples to their wonderful children and grandchildren. They deeply loved and loved sharing their pride in their children Roger and Karen, their children’s spouses, Naomi and David, and their grandchildren and “joy-bringers;” as Gloria affectionately called them, Sarah, Mark, David, Luke, John Paul and Mary Esther.

Funerals afford us the opportunity to reflect on the many “saints who have gone before.” While this is an exceptionally difficult loss, due to the sudden death of not one but two lives, it was at the Muselman funeral that we were able to grieve and worship simultaneously—a unique experience. It is our prayer that God will continue to comfort the family and friends of Art and Gloria in our loss and that one day Art and Gloria will “find us faithful.”

Tammi & Vance Maloney

Vance and Tammi Maloney joined the Taylor community in 1981. He serves as professor of psychology and she is an executive assistant in the president’s office.
Alumni reconnect at homecoming

Food, music, and fun were present in abundance as nearly 2,000 Taylor alumni and friends converged for Homecoming activities Oct. 19-21. Appropriately, the theme of the three-day event was Reconnect as class, athletic and academic reunions along with numerous special events were held throughout the campus.

According to Terri (Kesler '85) Collins, associate vice president for alumni and parent relations, plans for the annual events take place year-round and involved the efforts of many staff members and current Taylor students.

"Taylor University has been blessed with engaged and loyal alumni; it was wonderful to have so many of them back on campus," Collins said.

The weekend’s highlights included the annual 5K fun run, athletic events and the alumni brunch during which alumni and friends were awarded for achievement and friendship to the University. They were:

2007 Distinguished Alumnus for Professional Achievement
Eric Turner ’74
2007 Distinguished Alumnus for Personal Achievement
Jim ’91 and April (Walker’91) Jurgensen
2007 Distinguished Friend
Prabha George,
2007 Distinguished Alumnus for Service to Taylor University
Chuck Stevens ’67
2007 Distinguished Young Alumna for Professional Achievement
Sara (Habegger) Shady ’98
2007 Distinguished Young Alumnus for Personal Achievement
Justin Peterson ’97 (awarded posthumously)

Additionally, the following four alumni were inducted into Taylor University’s Athletic Hall of Fame during halftime ceremonies at the Taylor-Ohio Dominican football game:
Taylor Hayes ’44, Dale Miller ’91, Ned Stucky ’62 and Yen Tran ’98.

Hold the date for next year’s Homecoming October 10-12, 2008.

A life blessed through and through

Athea Jane Catlin has died at the age of 101. A member of the 1929 graduating class, Catlin returned to campus twice in the past year-and-a-half to reunite with her beloved college friend, Dorothy Miller, 100. (See Taylor, Summer 2006)

The two were reunited following Catlin’s wish that during her 100th birthday party she could see her friend once again.

“She remembered that,” said Catlin’s daughter Diana Ross, Rockville, Ind. “She forgot a lot of things, but she always remembered she got to see Dorothy again. To actually see her and talk to her meant a lot to her.”

Ross said her mother stayed healthy and active until the end of her life, even playing a toned-down version of kickball just three days before her death on July 5.

“God had blessed her life and blessed the end of her life,” Ross said. “She only spent one day totally in bed. She was up every other day.”

“We called Dorothy and Dorothy called her and got to talk to her again,” she said, adding that Catlin’s extended family had also appreciated the two visits the old friends were able to share.

“It was just wonderful to meet Dorothy. She was such a sweetheart (and we loved) to hear her tell the stories about the years they had at Taylor together.”

The two were together for the last time at the 2006 Homecoming chapel. “The chapel program was very special to me,” Ross said. “The kids gave them such a warm reception and it made them feel so welcome. It was a very special time.”

Catlin is survived by three children, 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.
Cultivating a culture of excellence

Being ranked Number One for the first time in U.S. News and World Report deserves some celebration.

First, we celebrate this ranking that comes on the heels of our having been ranked Number Two or Three for the previous 10 years.

We celebrate student success and alumni satisfaction. The ranking reflects outstanding results in student retention, graduation rate, alumni giving and many other quantitative factors. We celebrate a strong academic reputation that is based upon the evaluations of other university presidents and provosts as they study our performance relative to other colleges and universities.

The investment of faculty, staff, students, parents, friends, and donors over many, many years is cause for celebration. Most of all, we celebrate God’s goodness and faithfulness in blessing Taylor University.

However, the ranking deserves a word of caution because it is largely silent on what is most important: being a University that is thoroughly Christ-centered and intently Kingdom advancing.

Taylor has a legacy of succeeding at what is most important. This summer I rediscovered a seminal article written nearly 40 years ago by former president Dr. Milo Rediger ’39 entitled Where the Goalposts Are. His first two points are relevant for this column, and I point you to the entire article at our Web site, www.taylor.edu/goalposts.

Dr. Rediger wrote “we will continue to cultivate our emphasis on excellence and our war on mediocrity.” We have stellar curricular and co-curricular programs, and it requires almost a “war footing” to maintain them lest we drift into mediocrity.

He also wrote “we will continue to acknowledge our dependence on God and to renew our spiritual resources by giving Jesus Christ the preeminence in our lives and in our work.” He went on to note that he made this point second—not first—less we be tempted to ask God to bless our mediocrity.

There are two reasons that I resonate with these ideas. First, they come from the heart and mind of a person I consider a mentor and hero.

Second, God’s call to give of my best continues to serve as a focal point for those of us here who are committed to the full implementation of Taylor’s mission and vision.

This new ranking we celebrate reflects a long-term commitment to a stellar academic enterprise. But the other part of the commitment—where the supremacy of Christ and the authority of the Bible are key points—cannot be measured in any kind of news ranking. So how are we doing in this category?

People ask me if Taylor University has the same spirit that students they remember from their college years. As fondly as I remember my days as an undergraduate here, Taylor University is stronger in every sense of the word, starting with our spiritual vitality and focus. The young people God has called here are highly-motivated to serve Christ in profound and life-changing ways; and they want to do it based upon their understanding of scripture and the call of God in their lives.

But, we cannot rest on legacies, rankings, or even a president’s perceptions. Rather, our commitments must be made anew every morning to maintain Taylor and to advance Taylor if it is to be said of us—as it was said of King David—that he “served the purposes of His generation” (Acts 13:16).

This is my genuine desire for every person, place and program across the University. Yet, we are imperfect and there are many opportunities to improve. So, we need your partnership, including your feedback and prayer as well as your time, talents, and treasures. After all, it is our Taylor.

How do we go forward? The theme of this issue—relentless discovery—sums up what has driven us to where we are and will help take us to where we want to go.

Relentlessly, we will discover and implement what it takes to become a world-class liberal arts university. And we will continue to discover and be relentless in our pursuit of following God and honoring Him in all that we do.

"...we will continue to discover and be relentless in our pursuit of following God and honoring Him in all that we do."

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68 serves as president of Taylor University.
Some people and some gifts keep on giving

Harold and Gigi Beattie have over 60 years of history with and love for Taylor University. They have remained connected since graduating in 1949 and 1950. Before his death in 2003, Harold served three terms on the National Alumni Council, including a term as president. Over the years, they have been involved in many ways and have been generous supporters of TU. They stated, "Present and future students now have many more opportunities in more fields of endeavor than were available 50 years ago. Our world needs more Taylor students to be salt to a cynical, disruptive, destructive and disbelieving world." They have backed up that statement by creating Charitable Gift Annuities and an Endowed Scholarship as ways to "keep on giving, even after they're gone."

May we help you leave a legacy of ongoing gifts to advance God's Kingdom? Contact Al Rupp '68, in the Advancement Office for counsel or help in charitable gift planning, (800) 882-3456, x4886, or alrupp@taylor.edu.
Dr. Faye Chechowich '74, director of Taylor University's Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, reads one of the 25 books written by Taylor's faculty during the past five years. For more on faculty scholarship, see page 10.